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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCGOVERN).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
February 15, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JAMES P. MCGOVERN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God, creator of the universe, we bless You and we praise You for all the blessings showered upon this Nation. Yesterday, with sacred words from the Hebrew Scriptures, memorable songs, and beautiful expressions of memory and thanksgiving, this Congress celebrated the life, love, and illustrious service of the Honorable Tom Lantos. May You who create harmony in the heavens bring peace to all who mourn now.

His passing is a great loss to this body and the Nation because of his strong leadership and his ability to create faithful and lasting friendships both as a statesman and a champion for human rights. Lord, may Your people from all across this Nation and from around the world continue to console his wife, Annette, and his family, staff, and friends, with their prayers, affection, and sympathy.

Lord, because the Honorable Tom Lantos lived a great American story, he will inspire many. May You, our provident God, empower many more to draw upon his great legacy and work for securing human rights and human

dignity for every person everywhere here on Earth both now and forever. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### HOUR OF MEETING ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Thursday, February 21, pursuant to this order, it adjourn to meet at 4 p.m. on Monday, February 25.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, if I may.

Mr. Leader, I just had the opportunity to lead the house in the Pledge, which is a solemn honor. We stand here in an empty Chamber, virtually. Yesterday this House had an opportunity to act and protect our Nation to a greater degree by adopting FISA, which the Senate adopted in a bipartisan manner 68-29. It troubles me and many on our side that we're not proceeding with that business today, and I think that it's important that we

know, the Nation knows, Representatives here know that this House is not acting when it could, and I would suggest respectfully, Mr. Leader, we should.

Mr. HOYER. Would the gentleman yield under his reservation?

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I am happy to yield.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

In fact, I am from this very Chamber about 25 feet from here going to have a meeting with Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. REYES, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. CONYERS on proceeding to accomplish the objective the gentleman wants to seek and we want to seek.

As you also know, 2 days ago, we had a vote on ensuring the extension of the existing statute, not because we believed that was necessary but for an abundance of caution, and as the gentleman knows, every one of your Members voted against that extension on the demand that we do what you wanted us to do now. But in the protection that was available to you to extend for 21 days the protections you say are now going to be absent, every one of you voted "no." I'm sorry that that happened.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Reclaiming my time and continuing to reserve the right to object, the gentleman certainly knows that this has been extended from August until earlier this month. And then we agreed to a 14-day extension, until this evening. We believe, as I know you know well, our side believes that this needs to be adopted. Bipartisan action in the Senate proceeded along those lines and agrees that it ought to be adopted. We believe that letting the time lapse further only brings significant potential detriment to our Nation. So we strongly believe that it needs to be adopted.

You know that we're not in the majority. We're in the minority. Thirty-four of your Members voted not to extend for 21 days. Not to extend. Your

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g.,  1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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